

*State of  
California*

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

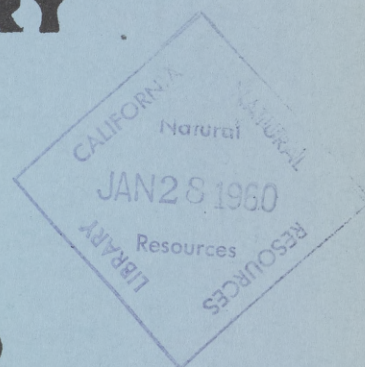
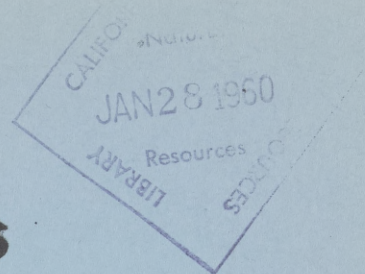
# NEWS LETTER

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Jan. 1959  
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**KEEP CALIFORNIA  
GREEN and GOLDEN**





STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
**DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER**

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND -

STATE FORESTER

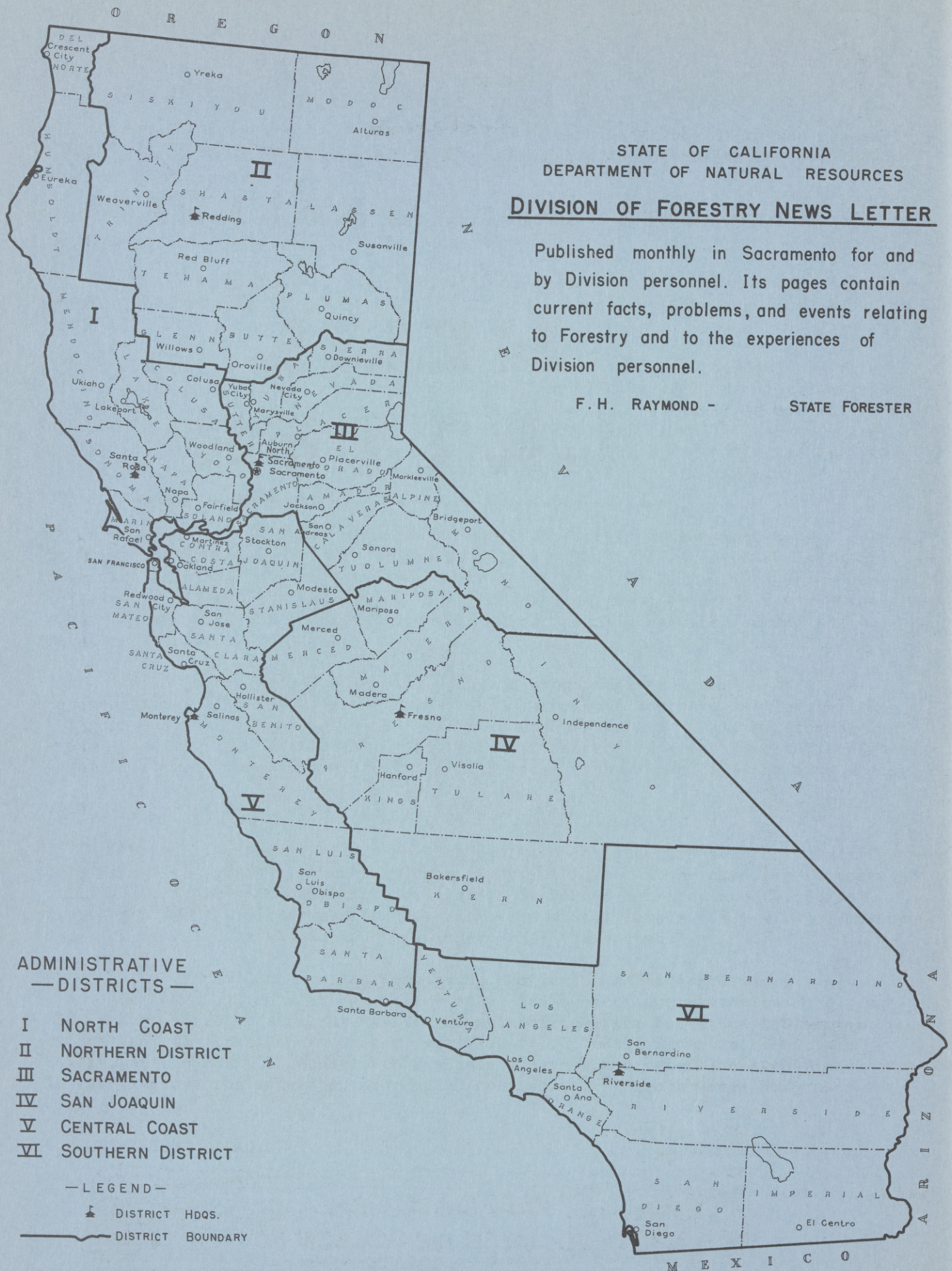
**ADMINISTRATIVE  
—DISTRICTS—**

- I NORTH COAST
- II NORTHERN DISTRICT
- III SACRAMENTO
- IV SAN JOAQUIN
- V CENTRAL COAST
- VI SOUTHERN DISTRICT

**—LEGEND—**

▲ DISTRICT HDQS.

— DISTRICT BOUNDARY





## NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

FIRE SUPPRESSION: Forest fire activity throughout the State was generally above to well above normal during this period due to the unseasonably warm and dry weather that was experienced.

A total of 163 fires occurred this month as compared to 22 for the corresponding period in 1957; 97 in 1956; and 74 in 1955.

There were 1,398 acres of timber, watershed, and range lands burned during November as compared to 225 acres in 1957; 2,939 acres in 1956; and 1,057 acres in 1955.

What appeared to be sufficient precipitation to close the declared fire season on November 15 in four districts, was soon alleviated by drought conditions, and fires continued to occur in all six administrative districts. According to the U. S. Weather Bureau, the unseasonably warm and dry weather was caused by a high barometric ridge lying off the coast of California. This ridge "blocked-off" the rain producing storm fronts that normally enter California at this time of the year.

Due to this unusual November drought, an emergency proclamation was issued by DeWitt Nelson, Director of Natural Resources. This proclamation declares that a written permit from F. H. Raymond, State Forester, will be required when burning inflammable material or using explosives on forest, brush, or grass-covered lands after December 1, 1958. A written permit is not usually required during the December 1 to April 15 period.

With major fires burning in Ventura and Los Angeles Counties, and the development of 40 to 50 m.p.h. Santana Winds throughout Southern California, the "Santana Task Force" was partially activated on November 28. This portion of the group consisted of three Assistant State Forest Rangers, fifteen Forest Firefighter Foremen, fifteen forest fire truck drivers, three pickups, and fifteen fire trucks.

## WATERSHED MANAGEMENT (PUBLIC LAW 566 (1018))

Napa River Watershed: A meeting was held for the purpose of determining data needed to determine the hydrologic effect of fire. Those agencies represented included U. S. Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Forest Service, and the State Division of Forestry; Sacramento, District, and county levels. A review of planning progress was held on the Napa River project with the sponsors.

State Soil Conservation Commission Meeting: The State Forester's office was represented at two meetings of the State Soil Conservation Commission during this report period. A representative of this office, the North Coast District office, and the Lake County Ranger, met with the Board of Supervisors of Lake County, at the Board's request, to evaluate progress and determine steps necessary in carrying out the watershed protection portion of the Adobe Creek Watershed Work Plan.

## COMMUNICATIONS - RADIO

Inspections were made of the mountain top mobile relay radio stations located in the Southern California administrative area.



## FIRE WEATHER

Weather stations were inspected in Placer, El Dorado, and Calaveras Counties.

A conference was held at Sacramento with personnel from the Experiment Station concerning the report on fire weather to be presented to the Board of Forestry in January. An outline of the subject matter to be covered was prepared and subsequently a report was written to be used at another presentation in December which follows this outline closely and may be considered as a first step in preparing the Board of Forestry report.

It is estimated that Division of Forestry and contract county fire weather stations will record a total of roughly 21,500 days of weather record this year. It is further estimated that approximately 41,000 Burning Indexes will be computed from these records.

A weather station was installed at the Sutter Hill Training Center in order to instruct students on the maintenance and proper use of the weather instruments.

## FIRE PREVENTION

Fire Prevention personnel assisted the Department of Natural Resources in co-sponsoring the annual Fall Conference of the California Conservation Council in Berkeley.

The Division of Forestry participated, with the U. S. Forest Service in a nation-wide program publicizing the issuance of the very attractive Forest Conservation postage stamp.

Fire prevention efforts of field personnel were accelerated in a campaign designed to inform residents of the critical fire situation which existed state-wide because of the extended summer weather.

Conferences were held in the office of the Attorney General with representatives of the major railroads to determine responsibility for fires which started or burned along their rights of way.

The Division continued to co-operate with the Engineering Research Section of the Southern Pacific Railroad in their attempt to eliminate the causes of fires resulting from their operations, maintenance, and construction. It was this section, working in conjunction with Standard Oil Company Research, that developed the new-type diesel locomotive spark arrestor used in 1958. This internal alteration in the engine exhaust system, used on 520 Southern Pacific diesel engines operating in California, was considered responsible for the sharp reduction in the number of fires caused by sparks from engines.

## STATE FORESTS

A group of redwood industrial foresters met on the Jackson State Forest on November 18th to become better acquainted with the forestry activities being carried on by the Division on this Forest. The following day, the group made a field tour of projects of particular interest to the group. Much discussion developed and many helpful suggestions were made by the foresters relative to the



technical demonstrational and experimental work underway and planned for the future. This meeting was arranged by the Division at the request of the Jackson State Forest Advisory Committee.

Durable Fir Lumber and Plywood Company at Calpella was awarded the Jackson State Forest timber sale for 15,406,100 board feet of old growth timber when sealed bids were opened in Fort Bragg on November 20th. The successful bidder offered \$22.17 for redwood and \$25.17 for Douglas fir as stumpage on a per thousand board foot basis. The sale area covers some 660 acres which lie in the James Creek drainage approximately 20 miles east of Fort Bragg. The sale is scheduled for completion by November 30, 1959. It is estimated that the sale will bring \$360,000 to the State in revenue. The mature, overmature, and defective trees on this sale have been selected for cutting to improve forest growth. Special efforts are to be taken on this sale for stream protection.

Redding Pine Mills Inc. has completed logging 3,738.440 thousand board feet of timber from the Latour State Forest. This timber brought \$41,930.07 to the State General Fund. The timber was over 75 per cent fir from 271 acres in the Old Cow and Bulhock Units of the State Forest. This timber was marked for cutting on a "unit area" management system. This type of "forestry by the acre" resulted in many different types of cuttings due to the diverse stand conditions on the sale area. The silvicultural systems ranged from clear cuts in red fir heavily infected with mistletoe to some very good looking light improvement cuts in thrifty mature sugar and white pine-fir types.

Aside from the experimental nature of the cutting itself, an experiment in slash disposal by lopping was carried out. The sale also resulted in completion of a high standard road link and stream crossing important to future management of the Forest. Stream side and erosion protection were stressed on this sale.

A sale of 1,715 Christmas trees from the Mountain Home State Forest brought a return of \$1,938.54 to the State. The trees were cut as a stand improvement measure by Mountain Home Conservation Camp crews. The trees were sold at roadside by bid for \$31.1¢ and 19¢ per lineal foot.

#### SERVICE FORESTRY

A representative of the Division of Forestry attended a public hearing in Salem, Oregon, on November 6th which was called for the purpose of discussing forestry being practiced on small ownerships. In general, the management of small forest tracts does not compare favorably with that found on public and industrial holdings. These small ownerships constitute a major proportion of the commercial forest lands. The Salem meeting was sponsored by the U. S. Forest Service and the State Forester of Oregon. Similar meetings were held this fall in all parts of the country. Other representation from California consisted of the University of California and the U. S. Forest Service.

#### TIMBER TAXATION

The Division of Forestry was invited by the Assessor of Mendocino County to participate in a meeting of timber taxpayers in Ukiah on November 17th. Interest of the Division in such a discussion stems from the fact that by law the State makes payments in lieu of taxes for the Jackson State Forest. The Assessor plans to initiate a two-year reappraisal program for old-growth timberland. In order to develop more realistic values the Assessor needs better information from timberland



owners on volume and planned cutting.

#### PEST CONTROL

The California Forest Pest Control Action Council, an organization of private and public agencies concerned with control of forest pests held its annual meeting in Sacramento on November 5 and 6.

The review of 1958 timber losses due to insects were reported as less than in 1957. Most of this decrease occurred in areas where in 1957 heavy infestation of western pine beetle was attacking ponderosa pine and mountain pine beetle was attacking sugar pine around burns in Fresno, Tulare, and Siskiyou Counties. Industry and public forest agencies are increasing their emphasis on control of bark beetles through the salvage of infested trees by logging where this is feasible.

According to disease surveys dwarfmistletoe is a widespread and damaging pest to conifers. This parasite not only can kill trees, but reduces the growth rate and the quality of many trees predisposing them to attack by insects and other injurious agents. White pine blister rust continues to increase in Northern California, but no advance southward is reported. Due to the unusual wet spring this year, some hardwood foliage diseases reached epidemic status.

According to the report on forest animal pest conditions for 1958, mice are causing considerable damage in debarking brush and eating tree seed and extensive damage to young trees is being caused by porcupines.

The Division co-operated in seven forest insect projects during 1958 treating 1,761 trees at a total cost of \$27,995. Three of these projects were contracted to the Forest Service which was treating trees on intermingled federal lands. The other projects were controlled by Division personnel using fire and Forestry Conservation Camp crews.

The Council compiles all pertinent data regarding insects, disease, and animal damage into an annual report. This publication of forest pest conditions is widely distributed to co-operating public and private agencies, timber owners, operators, and others. The 1958 conditions report will be published and released in early 1959.

The Wrightwood Zone of Infestation in and around the village of Wrightwood in northwestern San Bernardino County was approved by the Board of Forestry on November 20, 1958. The total acreage of the Zone is 7,040 acres of which 2,280 acres are privately owned. Damage is being caused in this area by the California flathead borer and the pine engraver beetle attacking Jeffrey pine trees.

#### NURSERY

A report of the Division's seed collection activities and the seed requirements of the nurseries was presented to the State Board of Forestry at its meeting in Asilomar, November 20, 1958. Generally, the Division is able to collect just sufficient seed, supplemented by purchases from commercial sources, to keep abreast of demands of the nurseries. Serious shortages do occur; however, in seed supplies from certain areas needed for planting stock for those areas.

Of the approximate 3,200,000 trees reported available for distribution from the Division's four nurseries at the beginning of the fall selling season, 1,380,000



have already been shipped or are on order for later delivery. The nursery price list-order blanks were mailed the middle of October for the 1958-59 selling season which corresponds to the best planting time, mid-November to mid-April.

#### EMERGENCY REVEGETATION

On November 24 and 25, the California Division of Forestry sowed seed on 2,500 acres of burned watershed in San Bernardino County.

The project was a joint venture with both San Bernardino County and the U. S. Forest Service assisting financially. Four burned areas, three of them near Oak Glen, north of Yucaipa, and a fourth north of Etiwanda were involved in the project. These highly valuable watersheds in the San Bernardino Mountains were burned over during last summer's fire season. Twenty thousand pounds of grass seed - mostly annual ryegrass - were sown on the denuded area in an effort to re-establish a growth of vegetation. The seed was flown on the burned area using a fixed wing airplane. Although the flying was done under contract, flagging, loading, and overall supervision was done by Division of Forestry personnel. At present, plans are well advanced for seeding two areas in San Diego County and one in Orange County.

#### ENGINEERING

Bids have been received to construct the new Rincon Forest Fire Station in San Diego County. The low bid was \$54,545.

Bids have also been received for construction of the Howard Forest Office building in Mendocino County. The low bid was \$29,995 and the completion for this building is April 21, 1959.

A new set of maps showing the revised area which is Division of Forestry responsibility have been prepared. This responsibility area was approved by Board of Forestry on October 23, 1958.

The equipment shelter at Elk Camp Forest Fire Station in Humboldt County has been completed and the residence and garage building at Squaw Valley Forest Fire Station in Fresno County is ready for occupancy.

Construction has been completed on the CDC office and storage space at Dew Drop Forest Fire Station in Amador County. This station will be occupied by a 30-man crew from the Beaver Creek CDC Camp in Calaveras County for this winter only.

#### DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

FIRE SUPPRESSION: The absence of rainfall during December created unusual "out-of-season" fire conditions in the northern and central sections of the State while Southern California not only experienced drouth, but also suffered prolonged periods of very severe "Santana Winds."

Forest fire activity ranged from above normal to extreme and approximately 100,000 acres of California's wildland area was blackened by fire this month. Although there were several fires throughout the State that were in excess of 100 acres and less than 1,000 acres, the greatest portion of the 100,000 acre loss was caused by four fires. These fires were: the 2,400 acre Kelly fire in Orange County;



the 19,000 acre Liberty fire in Los Angeles County; the 66,300 acre Stewart fire which burned in Riverside, Orange, and San Diego Counties; and the 4,500 acre Mulholland fire in Los Angeles County.

To assist the Southern California fire fighting forces during the month of December, the "Santana Task Force" was activated on the first of the month and remained in Southern California until January 7, 1959. This task force consisted of five Assistant State Forest Rangers, twenty-five Forest Firefighter Foremen, twenty-five Forest Firetruck Drivers, nine Forestry Equipment Operators, five pickups, twenty-five fire trucks, three bulldozer transport units, and three bulldozer service units. In addition to this group, supervisory personnel, conservation crews, and State prison crews were flown to the Southern California fires from all parts of Northern and Central California.

#### COMMUNICATIONS-RADIO

Except for the installations on White Mountain in Inyo County and at Mt. Danaher in El Dorado County, all mobile relay sites in the Division of Forestry state-wide radio network have been visited and inspected. These two will be inspected at a later date.

With the writing of the report for Telegraph Hill on December 26, inspection work in all districts was completed. We are now in the process of consolidating data collected and preparing site reference manuals for use in the Sacramento office and all district offices. We hope these will be available by March 1.

In addition to the above, arrangements have been made to hold the next California Committee FCCA meeting in Los Angeles on January 19 and 20. The primary purpose of the Los Angeles meeting will be to correct and complete a tentative Committee Constitution and By-Laws developed at our last general meeting held in Sacramento on June 24.

#### FIRE WEATHER AND BURNING INDEX

During December, a conference was held at the California Forest and Range Experiment Station in Berkeley to perform preliminary planning on the proposed program of converting the data on the Burning Index weather record forms to punch card operations.

Considerable time was spent in arranging and setting up an inventory system designed to provide rapid summaries of the status of the Burning Index record sheets. This operation was carried out with the thought of facilitating the process of preparing the records for entry on punch cards.

#### SPECIAL INFORMATION

On December 2, 1958, five men were severely burned on a Riverside County fire. Three of these men were released after treatment at the hospital, one a Division of Forestry Firefighter, the other two are volunteers from the Nuvview Fire Department.

The other two men were more critically burned. One of them, a Division of Forestry Foreman from Riverside County, was released from the Redlands Community Hospital where he has been under treatment for approximately a month; the other man, a Nuvview volunteer, is still in the hospital undergoing skin grafting.



## FIRE PREVENTION

Conditions which make it necessary to control the use of fire through the issuance of permits for all types of outdoor burning in rural and wildland areas prevailed, state-wide, through the month of December requiring the efforts of all personnel in preventing the start and spread of wild fires during this unusual period.

The first shipments of printed materials to be used in the 1959 fire prevention campaign arrived and were distributed to the District and Ranger offices. It is important that the attractive 1959 Smokey calendar and other items be available for use at the most appropriate time.

Fire prevention personnel met with leaders of fire prevention organizations from several other Western States and Canada in three workshop sessions aimed at making the best ideas of each available to all and the co-ordination of programs which extend into other states or areas.

The Division of Forestry and the Smokey Bear Program assisted the Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West in the preparation of their float in the Rose Parade on New Years Day, which carried an eleven-foot likeness of "Smokey Bear" in a forest scene with an effective fire prevention message. The efforts of all who participated were amply rewarded when the float was awarded the "Governor's Trophy", the highest award made for a float displayed by such an organization.

## ADMINISTRATION

A member of the Sacramento staff of the Division was appointed to represent the Department of Natural Resources on the Governor's interdepartmental committee on Indian Affairs. A meeting of that committee was held in Sacramento on December 8, 1958. This committee was established to advise on proposed federal legislation to terminate federal trusteeship over California Indians and the impact of such upon the State. This matter also is under study by a State Senate Interim Committee on California Indian Affairs.

## LEGISLATION

A joint meeting of the State Senate Interim Committees on Economic Redevelopment of Cutover Timber Areas and Brush Areas, and Forest Practices was held in Sacramento on December 2, 1958. Topics discussed at the hearing included forestry research, rehabilitation of cutover lands, co-ordination of resource agencies, forest pest control, forest practice regulation, and soil surveys. Upon invitation, a number of people from the University of California, the U. S. Forest Service, the timber industry, the State Board of Forestry, and the Division of Forestry participated.

## FOREST PRACTICES

The Forest Practice Committee for the South Sierra Forest District convened on December 3, 1958, in Sacramento. It has plans to revise the Forest Practice Rules for the District and the meeting was devoted to consideration of revisions to submit to public hearings to be held later in 1959.

A preliminary report of production of 1958 registered timber operators in California revealed that 5.35 billion board feet of forest products were produced in 1957. This is nine per cent lower than the 1956 figure and the second consecutive year that timber production has dropped in California. There were 1,526 registered



timber operators in 1958 compared to 1,591 in 1957. For a third year the number of registered operators has decreased.

#### STATE FORESTS

Wortman and Wortman of Visalia, California, have completed their timber sale on the Mountain Home State Forest. This company logged 2,229.16 thousand board feet (Scribner) of pine, fir, and dead redwood timber from the 100-acre sale area. Receipts to the General Fund from this sale totaled \$42,007.34. The timber was cut and removed in accordance with a timber sale agreement dated May 29, 1958.

The timber sale area will serve as a demonstration of good forest practices. The timber was marked in advance of cutting under a "unit area" system of timber management. This type of management requires that each acre of timber received a treatment calculated to reach the owner's objectives. Cutting of the timber thus varies from area to area with changes in the condition of the timber to be cut. The timber in this sale was marked largely under a group selection silvicultural system. In this system groups of overmature, defective, or decadent trees are marked for cutting. This creates small "holes" in the stand which are favorable for pine reproduction. Additional treatments of the seedbed areas have been made to try to insure successful regeneration of pine reproduction. The timber stand on this particular area was especially receptive to group cutting. Stand conditions plus a good marking job, followed by careful and well-supervised logging, resulted in an excellent example of the group selection method.

#### REFORESTATION

Reforestation work on the Conejos burn of 1950 in the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park in San Diego County, has been a continuing co-operative project between the Division of Forestry, the Division of Beaches and Parks, and the Department of Corrections. The program planned for the calendar year 1958 was completed in November. Inmate crews from the Morena Conservation Camp in San Diego County planted seeds of Jeffrey and Coulter pines in 8,000 seed spots to regenerate areas denuded by the fire. In seed spotting, approximately five to eight seeds are planted together in the soil at a depth of about one-quarter inch, each spot spaced about six feet apart. Most of the spots were planted under wire screen cylinders to protect them from rodents; some, left uncovered, were planted using seed coated with endrin, a recently developed rodent repellent being tested.

Observations were made of the tree planting done in the spring of 1958; survivals indicated were, 33 per cent for Jeffrey pine, 39 per cent for incense cedar, and five per cent for sugar pine.

The reforestation and nurseries specialist of the State Forester's staff presented a brief talk on the progress of reforestation in California at a meeting of representatives of the boards of forestry of seven Western States held in San Francisco on December 11, 1958.

#### NURSERY

Tree sales from the Division's nurseries amount to a total of about 2,150,000 trees on order or shipped for the season to date with an approximate revenue of \$22,200. This period of sales so far is only about two-fifths of the entire selling season, while the number of trees sold is more than two-thirds of the total available stock.



## PEST CONTROL

The Western Forest Pest Committee met in San Francisco on December 9th. The Committee is composed of representatives of the pest control action councils located in the Western States and British Columbia. A member of the Division participates on this committee. Pest conditions reports were presented by the local pest councils including California. A summary of the meeting was presented to the Western Forestry and Conservation meeting on December 11th in San Francisco. Particular emphasis was placed on animal damage to forest trees and the results from the use of insecticides by aerial spraying on pest control projects.

## FOREST RESEARCH

Representatives of the Division met with officials of the Boyce Thompson Plant Institute on December 16, 1958, to explore the possibilities of co-operation between the two agencies in forestry research. The Institute owns timber property and laboratory facilities in Nevada County which are used to investigate pest and silvicultural problems. This matter will be given further study to see if mutual benefits can be derived by co-operative efforts.

## RANGE IMPROVEMENT

Brush has been crushed down in preparation for spring burning on the 120-acre North Fork Range Study in Madera County. The project is a co-operative study involving other agencies, and is aimed at not only improving brush range, but finding methods to burn brush safely in high-fire hazard areas.

## EMERGENCY REVEGETATION

During the week of December 16th, the California Division of Forestry in co-operation with the Bureau of Land Management and San Diego County sowed ryegrass seed on 2,066 acres burned in the Pearson fire in San Diego County. This fire, near the town of Ramona, caused a serious flood run-off problem. The local residents were so concerned about the potential damage that several hundred dollars toward the seeding cost was raised by popular subscription.

At present, plans are underway for seeding one area in San Diego County, another in Los Angeles County, and a third the giant 66,000-acre Stewart fire in Orange County.

## CHRISTMAS TREES

The number of Christmas trees imported into California by truck in 1958 was practically the same as in 1957.

Nine hundred twenty-six thousand Christmas trees were trucked into California from twelve states and two Canadian Provinces. The leading import was Douglas fir with 520,000 trees. White fir, 270,000 trees; other species 98,000 trees, and red fir 37,000 trees followed in that order. Shipments from Washington and Oregon amounted to 75 per cent of the imports. Imports came from as far east as Michigan and from the Yukon territory in the north. Inspectors checked an additional 123,000 trees originally cut in California that came through the checking stations.

The data is collected by the California Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Quarantine Border Inspection Stations, and summarized by the



Division.

Eighty-eight per cent of the Christmas trees offered for sale in California retail markets were sold during the 1958 Christmas season according to a survey made by the Division. This is the highest percentage of utilization since 1954 when 93 per cent were utilized. Utilization has varied between a low of 77 per cent in 1953 and a high of 93 per cent in 1954.

#### ENGINEERING

The survey at Fowler Peak in Calaveras County has been completed for lookout and repeater site land negotiations.

Nineteen miles of the Stirling City-Transfer Forest Fire Station telephone line have been completed with only brush burning remaining.

The well house, tank and septic tank were completed this month at the Buckhorn Forest Fire Station in Shasta County.

The gravel parking area has been completed at the Yreka Headquarters in Siskiyou County.

The Amador Roadside Rest in Amador County near Sutter Hill was completed for the Division of Beaches and Parks.

Inspection on relocation of buildings at Alta Forest Fire Station was held. Buildings were moved due to relocation of Highway #40.

#### WELL, LET'S GET AGOIN'

"The State Forester has sent a representative into the east of Willits to make a preliminary survey of the fire patrol service. On the ridge due east of Willits, overlooking the territory comprising the Redwood Valley from Ukiah north, the Tomki area and across San Hedran Mountain and westward over Willits to the coast district, a potential site for airplane landing and supply station has been staked out. The field is a 50-acre plot and offers many natural advantages for a scout plane lookout."

The Timberman, November, 1920

#### LETTER FROM LANE BRYANT ANNUAL AWARDS FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

"Dear Friend:

"Lane Bryant is inviting nominations for its Annual Awards for outstanding volunteer community service. Two separate Awards of \$1,000 each, one to an individual and one to a group are presented annually. Nominations for candidates are now open for work performed during 1958.

"In the past, organizations which serve the nation as yours does, have received recognition through the Lane Bryant Annual Awards. Perhaps this year your organization may achieve such deserved recognition.

"Since you are in regular contact with local branches throughout the county, we hope that you will bring news of these Awards to their attention. May we suggest that you include information about the Awards in your publications?



Or you may wish to send a direct memo with news of the Awards to your affiliates. We will mail nomination forms and informational brochures to your local chapters should they request it of us.

"We are enclosing nomination forms and a brochure from this year's Lane Bryant Annual Awards event to give you background. The number of nominations from any one person or organization is not limited, but all nominations and a 200 word statement on the candidate's activities, must be submitted before March 15, 1959.

"We believe deeply in the importance of the work of the volunteer and feel that your organization has an important role in this activity. We hope you will encourage your local units to nominate worthy candidates to bring their accomplishments to the nation's attention.

"Cordially,

"s/ Jerome E. Klein, Director  
"Lane Bryant Annual Awards  
"465 Fifth Avenue  
"New York 17, New York"

#### STORY OF THE TILLAMOOK BURN

Salem, Oregon -- On the afternoon of August 14, a quarter of a century ago, the first Tillamook fire broke out in the Gales creek canyon in northwestern Oregon. It was ten days later that it "blew up" and within a matter of 20 hours, an area of 40,000 acres that had been burned over during the first ten days of the fire had grown to 250,000 acres. More than 12 billion board feet of Oregon's finest timber was killed.

On that early morning of August 14, the sun rose clear and hot. An east wind swept across the valley and into the slopes of the Coast range. As morning advanced, the wind grew stronger. It rustled through the forests. It absorbed the moisture from the slashings, the twigs and moss on the trees and the debris on the forest floor. It was a restless and uneasy day in the forest.

Foresters urged the loggers to close operations. In those days there was no law forcing such action. It was voluntary only. Up in the Gales creek canyon, 15 miles out of Forest Grove, a logger had a single log to bring in before closing. As the huge Douglas fir ground its way to the landing the spark occurred, either through a line around a stump or windfall or by the log itself as it ground its way across a down cedar.

The fire call rang through the woods. Before the loggers could bring their fire fighting tools from the landing, the fire had carried to the top of a tall snag nearby. The east wind caught burning debris and carried it half a mile across the canyon into an area of tinder dry slashings. The fire literally exploded. A wall of flame was carried directly into the nearby stand of age-old Douglas fir. It halted for an instant and then flamed through the tops of the trees with a roar that could be heard down in the valley.

Men were called from the fields, the forests, and the cities. A thousand enrollees from the Civilian Conservation Corps hit the fire. They fought the fire for ten days, losing lines, backing up and putting in others. They were heartened during the approach of the first ten days by a slight rain and it was nearly



controlled. By that time about 40,000 acres had been burned.

But with the coming of daylight on the morning of August 24 the picture had changed. An east wind blew across the valley floor with a force that picked up dust from the summer fallow. Foresters knew the threat and ordered fire fighters and families away from the west side of the fire.

Over a fifteen mile front the Tillamook fire broke out with a fury like the eruption of a gigantic volcano or the explosion of an atomic bomb. It rolled through the forest with a frightening force, uprooting trees, twisting them off, cracking the cliffs with the terrific heat. Some of the fire crew, with inexperienced men verging on panic, were brought out to safety under the guidance of the experienced men. Families along the Wilson and Trask rivers made their way to safety in the coastal areas.

Along the Pacific coast charred needles of the trees, ashes and cinders fell in the streets of the cities to a depth where they could be scooped up in shovels. A choking, blinding smoke settled in the valley and cars crept in a cloud denser than any fog that ever rolled in from the Pacific.

But late that evening the east wind died down, and a fog rolled in from the Pacific ocean, the first in a number of days. But the 40,000 acres of that morning had grown to 257,000 acres just twenty hours later.

It was on that day that Oregon made the unenviable record of being the location of one of the nation's historic fires of modern times. This one was added to those of bygone days -- the Nestucca fire of 1848, the Yaquina fire of five years later, and the Coos Bay fire of 1868.

But the 1933 Tillamook fire was not the end of the tragedy. In 1939 another logger was careless and the second Tillamook fire got away, covering some 200,000 acres, much of it the original burn. And again in 1945 at the regular six-year interval, the third fire broke out on the burn and 180,000 acres was covered before it was brought under control. Out of these three fires, a total of 350,000 acres of forest land had been devastated and 13.5 billion board feet of timber killed.

But that last fire really made the headlines. The newspapers sent their reporters and photographers out on the fire line. They fed the news and the pictures to the papers. Startling and tragic stories, full of human interest, went into the papers and over the air. The editors demanded that something be done to reclaim this lost empire and if the State could not do the job, then it should be turned over to the federal government.

The State met the challenge and the voters in 1948 approved a bond issue without limitation of either time or amount. It furnished the available money to go ahead with the work of forest rehabilitation. In 1949 the legislature passed the enabling bill and the work got under way on July 1 of that year. It was a job that exceeded any that had ever been attempted by any state or federal agency. It was without precedence of a guide for the state forestry department.

But work got under way with the two main objectives in mind. The first was to reforest all areas necessary and the second not to plant a tree or seed an acre of land unless there was reasonable assurance that it could be protected from fire.



In line with this policy a continuous corridor was designated along the primary ridges throughout the burn where all the snags would be felled, fire lines built down to mineral soil, and all inflammable debris cleared for a distance of many feet on each side of this line. A block might be lost during an extreme fire situation but that would be all.

Areas were designated which were suitable for aerial seeding and those where planting would be necessary. As the work progressed lookout houses were constructed, roads maintained and built, additional crews placed in the field during the fire season, and a 60-man camp established down on the Wilson river as a permanent fixture.

During the period that the work has been carried out, it has seen 25,000,000 trees planted in 31,000 acres of forest land, 57,336 acres have been aerially seeded, 771,872 snags felled, and 140 miles of fire breaks constructed.

The little trees are beginning to show their terminals above the fern and brush in parts of the forest. They are a promise of future forests, future industry, and future recreational facilities.

The Tillamook burn will eventually become a green forest and a place in which to work and a place in which to play.

Timber Topics  
Fall Issue, 1958

#### PERSONNEL CHANGES

The following appointments and transfers have been authorized and completed since the last News Letter was released:

Richard H. Willshon, Assistant Civil Engineer, transferred from the Department of Water Resources to District I Headquarters at Santa Rosa, on December 2, 1958.

Stanley Moe transferred from Forestry Work Project Supervisor to Associate State Forest Ranger on December 2, 1958, in the San Diego Ranger Unit.

Tracy Bushnell promoted to Forestry Work Project Supervisor on December 2, 1958, to replace Stanley Moe at the Minnewawa CDC Camp, San Diego County.

The following change was made in the Sacramento-Administration office:

Maxine Northart transferred from Intermediate Clerk in the Fire Control Section to Intermediate Account Clerk in the Fiscal Section effective January 30, 1959.

#### LETTER TO RANGER J. W. MILLER, MIDDLETOWN

"Thank you for your co-operation in providing a Ranger for the educational feature of our Christmas Greens workshop, December 3, at the Lake County Fairgrounds, Lakeport.

"I especially appreciated the manner in which you arranged for Denver



Wood to participate when Frank Hudson was called to the Malibu fire emergency area. Mr. Wood is our first and only 4-H Forestry leader in Lake County and is doing a fine piece of work with the club members -- so you know he did a good job with the adults, well over 275, who attended the session.

"The display board was an eye-catcher and was most helpful in identifying tree cones used in several of the displays. Comments of visitors indicated they "liked and learned" from your organization's participation.

"If I can be of any assistance in acquainting our 4-H'ers or adult groups with accepted practices, I would be glad to do so.

"Thank you again.

"Sincerely yours,

"s/ Viola B. Wells, Home Advisor  
"Agricultural Extension Service  
"Denver Wood, Clearlake Oaks."

LETTER TO CHIEF OF DIVISION OF FORESTRY, SANTA ROSA

"On the part of the manager of my estate, Mr. Walter C. (Wally) Jourdan, Jr., I wish to express my sincere gratitude for the exemplary diligence, integrity and conduct in line of duty of:

MR. ROBERT LEE

who responded to an alarm at my house in SUMMER HOME PARK on the morning of 26 December, 1958, about 2:00 A.M.

"Mr. Lee proved himself in every way capable of performing his job in the best tradition of your very fine service. As I understand it, Mr. Lee practiced caution in the use of water while still maintaining control of the situation. This, I know, reduces damage. Also, it has come to my attention that he was responsible for discovering an after fire which, had he not stood by, may have resulted in far more serious damage. The fact that he remained on guard until eight o'clock in the morning -- until the last spark had been extinguished, is most gratifying.

"I have learned from Mr. Jourdan that Mr. Lee also was most kind in seeing that Wally received fresh water for drinking (the current having been cut off and the pump therefore out of order) and even supplying him with a few dry cigarettes is something I feel is more than can be expected, and certainly beyond the call of duty.

"I hope that you will find it possible to make this a matter of record inasmuch as I wish to make the most favorable commendation.

"Thank you and Sincerely,

"s/ Charles L. Ayers, Jr."



LETTER TO FRED DUNOW, DEPUTY STATE FORESTER

"Dear Mr. Dunow:

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the Department of Forestry for authorizing Bill Merl of Auburn to use one of his crews from the Iron Mine Honor Camp to assist me, as Deputy Coroner of Placer County, to remove the body of Earl C. Stewart from the American River Canyon 20 miles above Foresthill on the Mosquito Ridge Road. The splendid cooperation I received from Bill and his foreman, Hugh Maples, is definitely worthy of comment. Their knowledge of the mountains and their ingenuity made an almost impossible job seem easy. The body was straight down 1500 feet from the road and in an almost inaccessible location. The family of the deceased was very much impressed by the overall operation and very grateful for the kindness and sympathy shown to them by Bill Merl.

"Placer County's Coroner, Francis E. West, and I are equally appreciative of this note worthy service that was extended to us and hope that someday, we may be able to be as helpful to you and your organization.

"Most gratefully,

"s/ Harry E. Sands, Deputy Coroner  
"Placer County Coroner's Office"

SUTTER HILL TRAINING CENTER

Two classes, Class #6 and Class #7 have been completed by 39 Forest Fire Truck Drivers at the Sutter Hill Training Center. Joe Haggard had to drop out of Class #7 because of illness, but we are glad to see him return to Class #8 to complete his training.

Drivers of Class #6 were:

Stanley O'Brien  
Gary Mattingly  
Richard Repsher  
Richard Porter  
Burton Scott  
Darrel Kohler  
Evan Beito  
Mike Rankin  
Lee Ragsdale  
Paul Shisler

Franklin Knapp-Smith  
Gordon Wolleson  
Connie Robertson  
Gene Butin  
Fred Brack  
Robert Farley  
Gerald Murphy  
Richard Vogler  
Gerald Dragoo  
Ray Clark

Drivers of Class #7 were:

Richard Bowie  
Charles Hawkins  
Arthur Lawrence  
Jack Strehl  
Richard Heaton  
David Watson  
Raymond McRae  
Robert Meadows  
Norval Smith  
Loel Polley

Merlin Krause  
Michael Salfen  
George Shults  
Robert Maxey  
Norris Pinoli  
Larry Sturman  
Arthur Thompson  
Raymond Barrell  
Eddie Whitten



We wish to thank all of the fellows again for their very fine cooperation and diligent work.

The Training Center at Sutter Hill now enjoys the use of a new building that has recently been completed. The office comprises the front one-third with most equipment built by Iron Mine CDC Camp. Instructors quarters occupy the center portion and have been made very comfortable. The back third is devoted to an equipment room where pumps, both truck and portable, chain saws, and an array of vital valves, fittings, and integral parts are available for inspection, dismantling, and re-assembling by the students.

A new system was tried out this year on a trial basis of having four qualified foreman assigned to the school during the winter school year. They will return to their home counties next fire season. This system has worked out even better than was previously hoped for, resulting in constantly improving lesson plans, training aids, reference material, maintenance of the school facilities, and most important, good continuity of presentation and accurate measure of student progress.

The faculty of the school wishes to thank all the units and personnel who have contributed so much to the school's progress.

D.E. Knowlton  
Assistant Deputy State Forester

THE FOLLOWING LETTER WAS RECEIVED IN DISTRICT IV'S OFFICE

"As you know, the Farm and Home Advisor's Office in Fresno County has conducted over the past five years a series of livestock night schools in the various parts of Fresno County.

"In this connection I would like to draw your attention to the participation of one of the California Division of Forestry employees. Mr. Wolfram of your office assisted in the subject matter presented at the current Coalinga livestock night school.

"Mr. Wolfram is to be commended for the worthwhile information he presented. I hope you will convey my thinking to him.

Very truly yours,

s/ Richard G. Jones  
Farm Advisor"

KINGS COUNTY

Everybody turned out for our annual dinner last week. Assistant Ranger N. O. Stephens was the chef and maitre d'hotel. His turkey dressing was a gastronomic delight.

Our Pop has passed the 25-year mark with the Division of Forestry. Almost half that time has been spent in Kings County. We, in this area, are might proud of the growth of this department and the protection afforded us. The efforts of Ranger C. E. Lindley are clearly defined and will leave an indelible imprint in the coming years.



We've more than doubled the number of Burning Permits issued over last year and they're still coming in. Following a citation and a \$25 fine for burning without a permit during this hazardous period, resulted in making the public more aware of the danger of poor burning practices.

Planning is still under way in the county in anticipation of a whopping growth in 1960 due to the construction of the Lemoore Naval Base.

The Hall's Corner Fire Station is being readied for a visit from Santa Claus. F.T.D. Uriel Cross and the HC Volunteers will entertain their families and the kiddies at this annual event.

Hope each of you had a merry holiday. May the New Year bring contentment, the love of friends, and every day a happy day.

Forence P. Appell  
Clerk - Dispatcher

#### MARIPOSA COUNTY

One day this past month over the Mariposa Headquarters phone we heard a frantic call for help from our Williams Peak Lookout!

It seems that the august Mr. "Casey" Light, Assistant Ranger-Dispatcher and Foreman Carroll Dunkel, who had gone quietly to the Lookout to take inventory, were confronted with the extremely difficult problem of what to do about a wild huge mountain billy goat which had fallen into the water tank. Their call to the office was for a crew to come help them extricate the goat from the tank.

The crew was promptly dispatched -- with all sorts of riggin' for hauling out that strong vicious animal (both physically and aromatically). When the crew had almost reached their destination, another call came through to give them a "10-19" --- "Mission already accomplished."

Naturally, when these two gentlemen returned to the office we were all agog over what had happened. Of course, each story differed, according to the story teller, but according to the best (?) sources, it seems that "Casey" stood up on the catwalk of the lookout tower and directed Mr. Dunkel to scare the goat into jumping out. We just couldn't understand why those cowboys didn't go down and gently lead out that docile (?) animal or use their lasso and haul him out.

The poor creature was so frightened at the appearance of Foreman Dunkel that he put forth a might effort and leaped out of the tank onto safe ground. (Needless to say, the tank will have to have a complete renovation before the water stored in its innards will be fit for human consumption).

Ruth B. Massey  
Mariposa Headquarters Office

#### LETTER TO MRS. R. CLAYTON HICKLE, WOODLAKE, CALIFORNIA, FROM C. E. METCALF

"On behalf of the Director of Natural Resources and the State Forester, I wish to express to you and your family our deep sympathy in the passing of your husband, R. Clayton Hickle. All of us were shocked to hear that he had passed away, yet with his disability retirement condition you must have realized, and we also, that he might leave us at any time.



I cannot help but cite to you and your children the valuable contribution Clay made to the preservation of natural resources, since I personally knew him dating back to May, 1927. He was one of my first voluntary firewardens and helped to organize Tulare County. He carried that voluntary firewarden appointment to his credit, and the Division's, until he went to work for the Division as a civil service employee in 1942 as an Assistant Ranger. He served the Division well in Tulare and Madera Counties as Assistant Ranger when it became possible to appoint a man to work on our brush-range problems in District IV. We were fortunate that Clay was on an eligible list promotionally for Associate State Forest Ranger. After reviewing his experience and education he had received at Davis and other schools, I had no hesitancy that he be appointed to this job. My recommendation was approved by the State Forester. Clay did his usual good job in this new assignment and made many friends for the Division during the critical days this new program was being established.

Looking back now it appears that Clay's desire to be active kept him working when perhaps he should have taken a disability retirement. We know that he was thinking of the welfare of his fellow men when he worked in the flood area of the Kaweah which brought about his ultimate passing. You and your three lovely children have every reason to be proud of him. His passing will be felt, yet this is life and "some day we will understand."

Please feel free to contact us if at any time we may be of help in straightening up Clay's affairs.

Sincerely

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

R. Clayton Hickle was born in Clarksville, Iowa, on January 16, 1895, and passed away in Exeter, California, on January 19, 1959, age 64 years. He was buried in the Vandalia Cemetery Friday morning, January 23, 1959. We of the Division have lost a loyal friend and employee and his memory will be with us for many years to come.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

#### KINGS COUNTY

Kings County Fire Truck Drivers are busy. They are attending a series of training sessions whereby each man will receive 40 hours of instruction. Preparation for a complete curriculum in this branch of public service was devised by the administrative staff.

The agenda and instructors include personnel and public relations, Ranger C. E. Lindley. Automotive operations and maintenance, Assistant Ranger N. O. Stephens, Forest Firefighter Foreman Jack Bixler, and Fire Truck Driver Mechanic James Kirklin. Fire Prevention and law enforcement, Fire Prevention Officer Deane L. Bennett. Fire extinguisher use, Maintenance and Care, Al Joregensen of Fresno. Allied fire control reports, Stephens and Bixler. Communications, Kings County Radio Technician Bill Bailey. Pump operations and hose lay, Stephens, Bixler, and Kirklin. Compensation and health insurance, Kings County Auditor Beatrice Hawes.

The boys are genuinely enjoying classes and participate freely in discussion periods and demonstrations. It will take three weeks to complete the cycle of instruction.



I've hardly a free moment and made a special effort to sandwich this letter in between phone calls, radio traffic, reports and more reports.

Florence P. Appell  
Clerk-Dispatcher

#### SMOKE SIGNALS FROM DISTRICT VI FOR DECEMBER

Old "Nick" came and found that all through our four-county house not a creature was stirring, not even a souse. They were all too tired to get soused after a week in the Stewart Fire, second largest in California since the War. Largest was the 1955 Santa Barbara County "Refugio" at 76,000. In the last 34 days of the year, starting right after Thanksgiving, District VI and Santana personnel hit the "Warner" - 4,000, "Kelley" - 2,400, "Liberty" - 19,000, "Stewart" - 66,300 and "Mulholland" - 4,500, plus 565 other runs, all without the aid of any strong or severe Santana Winds. If there were any bored Task Force members, then we'll turn on the strong and severe Santanas in '59. Unfortunately, nearly 500 of the 565 runs were not in San Diego, so maybe the District IV and V boys in San Diego were slightly bored. We'll also try to arrange better fire distribution in '59!

Just before and after Christmas, District Headquarters was almost deserted on some days what with men trying to cut their vacation days under 30. On other days, the place was alive with men called back for fires. Several didn't succeed in getting under 30 days and gave up vacation days.

Old Man Earth sure shut Oak Glen's water off. One day, a slight earthquake shook (Oak Glen is on top of the famous San Andreas earthquake fault) and immediately their spring source of water started drying up from the former eight gallons per minute. After one week, no water was coming out. Now the inmates are busy as beavers gophering for water in the old hole as well as the new, and FEO's, when available, are pushing granite mountains aside to construct a road to the new hole.

Returning to Forestry from the Military is Driver David Benton. Gone from Forestry are FEO Glen Winterrowd and Driver Mel Monique. Also gone, from Oak Glen, is Foreman Jim Gann. He was on Los Angeles County's Camp Foreman list where the green stuff is thicker and the hours are shorter. That is five we've lost to Los Angeles now.

After Rainbow Camp Crews had worked in Crow Canyon for at least a year putting in truck trail drainage and 100 feet brushing, the Stewart Fire burned the entire canyon out. Now the firebreak is nice and wide!

Not so funny was the serious burning of Foreman Clarence Shay on a Riverside County 545-acre fire December 2. Shay didn't get out of the Redlands Community Hospital until after Christmas. That is the same hospital where FEOs Pete Miller and Vern Dupper recovered from their September experience under a D-7. Pete can now flex his fingers a little, but won't be back on duty until at least April 1. Vern has been back with us since November 1. Going back to Foreman Shay, he had the company of F.F. Conrad Vargas and three volunteer fire department men. Only one of the latter were burned enough to join Shay for the long stay in the hospital.

On December 4, Assistant Ranger Charles Still was killed while off duty in his home city of Beaumont. He was a pedestrian at the time and was hit by



an automobile. Charley was one of the real old timers in Forestry and his list of friends is State long.

One last sorry note creeps in. District Ranger Joe Adams of the Prescott National Forest was burned to death on the Stewart Fire.

Due to the wet winter last year, fire occurrence was up this year. Riverside's total runs for '58 went well over 1900, and actual fires were right at 1700. That was the high in this district this year as well as all years. And with that high point, we close.

Doug Glenn  
District VI Headquarters

#### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TRAINING CENTER

Through rain, snow, fire Santana, etc., etc., the class was graduated almost on schedule.

Class II for Forest Fire Truck Drivers started on schedule and graduated two days late on a Sunday afternoon. The schedule called for November 17 through December 19. Men attending were:

M. A. Blasingame	District IV
O. E. Bowne	" IV
H. P. Brooks	" VI
N. L. Card	" IV
J. R. Cates	" IV
F. W. Ciskowski	" VI
D. W. Cooper	" IV
D. J. Day	" VI
K. C. Hobbs	" IV
J. M. Hunter	" VI
J. E. Jory	" VI
P. M. Miller	" VI
V. L. Murray	" VI
V. L. Nabors	" IV
W. D. Shirey	" VI
S. C. Stein	" VI
K. V. Van Volkinberg	" IV
W. R. Wirth	" VI
C. M. Wolf	" VI
L. D. Wollert	" IV

These Driver trainees got a good deal more than classroom and practice field training. Fires attended by Training Center personnel during this session were:

Malibu	19,000 acres
Wilson	150 "
Kelley	3,300 "
Stewart	66,300 "

The men spent eight working days and several nights on these fires. Many subjects not received at the Center were covered by the work assignment on the fires.



On the last five days of the session, we held night classes so all subject matter was covered.

This was beyond doubt the most eventful class to date. The men from this class will really have something to tell their grandchildren.

D. L. Russell  
Associate Ranger

### THIRD ANNUAL SACRAMENTO MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Sacramento, January 28, 1959 -- The Third Annual Sacramento Management Conference will be held March 7, at Sacramento State College, with "Management in an Expanding Economy" as its theme, Dr. John R. Cox, General Chairman, announced.

Keynote speaker will be Professor Harold D. Koontz, Vice-Chairman of the graduate school of Business Administration of the University of California, Los Angeles.

Other speakers and discussion leaders will be announced later, Professor Cox, Chairman of the Business Administration division at Sacramento State College, said.

Discussion topics include: Management Development Programs, Organizational Planning, Effectiveness of Human Relations Training, Evaluating Performance of Management and Employees, Cost and Budgetary Control, Electronic Computers, Personnel Selection, and Financing Expansion.

The conference will open in the Little Theater on the campus, at 8:15 a.m., for registration and coffee with the welcome and keynote address starting at 9:00 a.m. Discussion sessions will follow until the general luncheon session. After the luncheon address, discussion will be resumed until a general concluding session at 3:15 p.m.

The conference is sponsored by the Society for Advancement of Management, National Office Management Association, the Methods and Procedures Association, American Institute of Industrial Engineers, American Society for Public Administration, Sacramento Personnel Association, National Machine Accountants Association, and Sacramento State College.

Persons interested in attending should contact Richard E. Strahlem at the College.



### THE COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Goula M. Wait, Secretary Manager of the Amador County Fair is shown receiving an award at the annual meeting of the Western Fairs Association in Los Angeles on December 4, 1958, from Deputy State Forester James K. Mace. The award is made jointly each year by the Division of Forestry and the U. S. Forest Service to a member of the Western Fairs Association in California for outstanding interest and activities in promoting forest fire prevention.

Recipients of the award are selected on the basis of annual surveys by the U. S. Forest Service, Division of Forestry, and the Western Fairs Association.

Joining Mr. Mace in the presentation are Richard F. Froege, Supervisor, Angeles National Forest, on the left; and, on the right, C. L. "Link" Peckinpah, Chairman, Conservation Committee, Western Fairs Association.







